

15a is placed in a position within imaginary broken lines connecting the ends of preferably 3 to 5 second ground terminals 21. This structure prevents thrust from being placed directly on the signal terminal because any applied forces are taken up by the ends of the ground terminals which extend beyond the signal terminal when the connectors are mounted on or changed on the circuit board. Hence, there is a beneficial effect that peeling off of the signal terminal from the conductive pad or that of the conductive pad from the circuit board can be avoided. This feature and advantageous function is not mentioned or suggested in Togashi U.S. Patent 5,662,480 or Maruyama U.S. Patent 6,074,217, and is deemed to be nonobvious and patentable thereover.

Claim 2 is amended to particularly point out the features described in Paragraphs 0019 and 0026 of the original Specification, that the metallic shell is shaped cylindrically with a circular bottom end that is a ground terminal provided with cuts with intervals in between whose depth is designed to be approximately the same thickness as tin to be soldered therein. The protruding parts are mounted in contact with the ground pad of the circuit board, whereas the cuts provided spaces between the ground terminal and the ground pad of the circuit board into which a solder layer can be laid. Therefore, the areas contacting the circuit board can be very small because the shell lies flush on the circuit board. The depth of the cuts is the same as the tin to be soldered therein, thus enabling a floating of the coaxial connector due to the surface tension of the soldered tin being made less in an effective way when mounting the coaxial connector to the circuit board. This configuration allows parts to be mounted with great precision and density on the circuit board. This claim is thus also deemed to be nonobvious and patentable over the cited references.

Claim 5 is maintained substantially as previously presented, and the rejection based on the Togashi U.S. Patent 5,662,480 is respectfully traversed. As shown in Fig. 17(d) of the reference, the terminal 95 is the end part of a whole that extends from the base plate 92 to the engaging portion 94. Also, it is clear from referring to Fig. 15 of the reference that signal transfer is not from directly below, but toward the terminal 95 which projects outwardly to the side of the shell. On the other hand, the coaxial connector defined in Claim 5, as shown in Figs. 9 and 10 of the Application, has signal transfer from directly below because the signal terminal has a part that

projects downward from the middle of the terminal strip. The projection at the bottom of the Togashi shell is only provided to prevent the contact from moving up and down when attached to the circuit board, and is not electrically contacted with the conductive pad as stated in Claim 5. The length of the terminal strip in the invention within the confines of the shell is also shorter and transmission characteristics are advanced at higher frequency wavelengths because of the shorter length. Therefore, this claim is also deemed to be nonobvious and patentable over the cited references.

The remaining dependent Claims 3, 4, 8, 9, and 10 continue to be maintained. New dependent Claims 11 and 12 are added to recite the subject matter of Claim 6 in dependency from Claims 2 and 5, respectively, and new Claims 13 and 14 are added for the subject matter of Claim 7 in dependency from Claims 2 and 5 also. It is requested that a Notice of Allowance be issued for all claims upon reconsideration.

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Applicant hereby request a 2-month extension of time for response to the Examiner's action, i.e., until January 24, 2005. Our check for \$450 for the required extension fee (large entity) is enclosed.

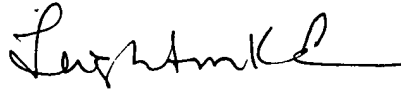
AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE DEPOSIT ACCOUNT FOR ANY FEE DEFICIENCY

This response is filed with a certificate of mailing within the requested time extension for response, and with total and independent claims after amendment numbering within the limits originally paid for with the filing fee. However, if any fees are deemed to be due for acceptance of this response, authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 502633.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING:

The undersigned certifies that the foregoing is being mailed on January 21, 2005, by depositing it with the U.S. Postal Service, first class postage paid, addressed to: Mail Stop: Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Respectfully submitted,
ATTORNEYS FOR APPLICANT



Leighton K. Chong
USPTO Reg. No. 27,621
OSTRAGER CHONG FLAHERTY & BROITMAN (HI)
841 Bishop Street, Suite 1200
Honolulu, HI 96813-3908
Tel: (808) 792-4841
(HST, 6 hrs < EST)